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Writing for Publication masterclass

on behalf of the RCN Education Forum steering committee

Facilitators:

Dr Sarah Burden, Leeds Beckett University

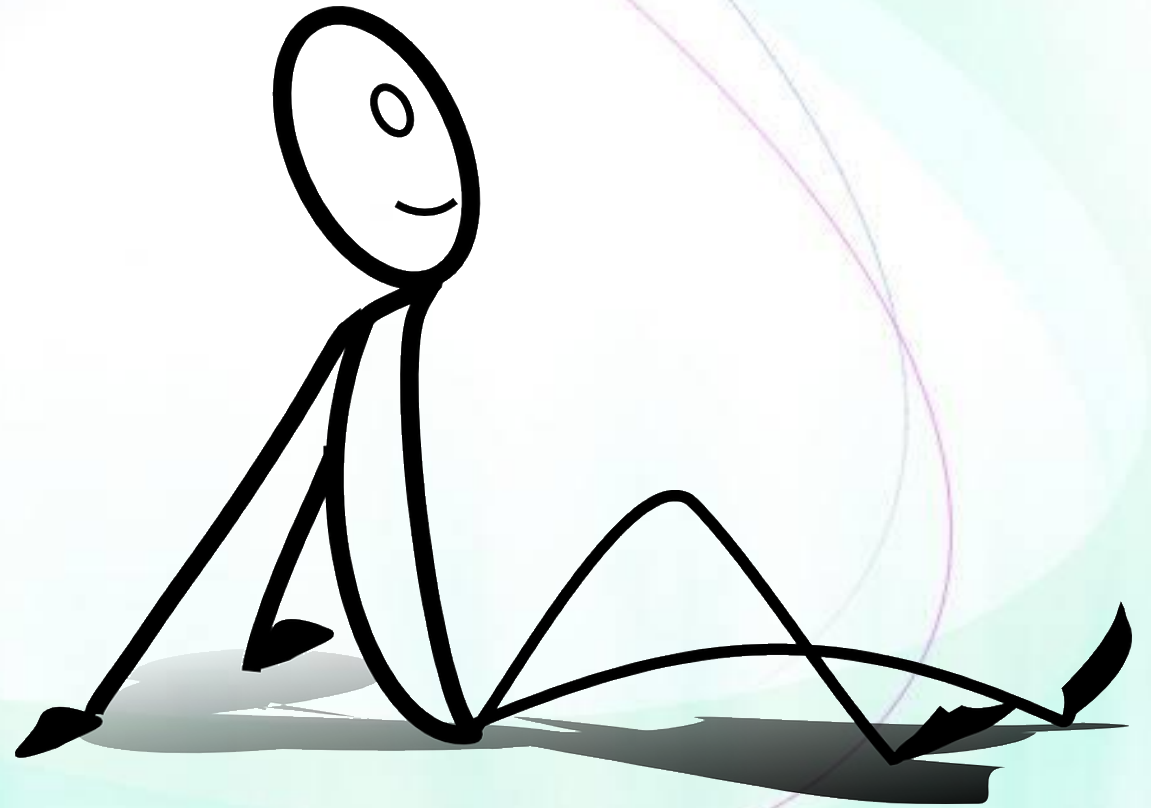
Dr Debbie Porteous, Northumbria University

Aims of the workshop

- Consider motivations and decision to publish
- Illustrate how to turn a conference poster or presentation into an article
- Explore 'blockages and barriers' to writing and how to overcome them

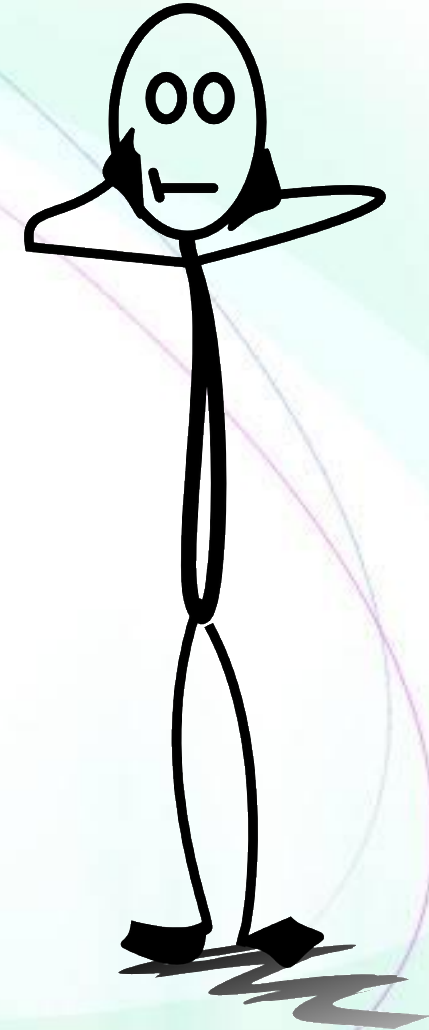
And hopefully engender confidence to have a go..... and be successful....

Consider motivations and decision to publish



Why publish?

- Expectation of job role
- Contribute to practice evidence base
- Disseminate research findings
- Share practice / education innovations
- Improve service delivery and patient care
- Other??



What do you want to publish?

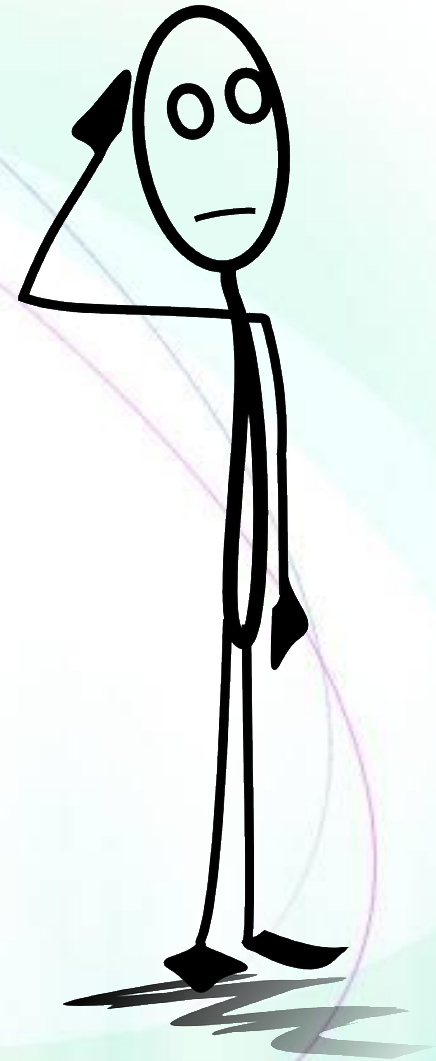


Type of article:

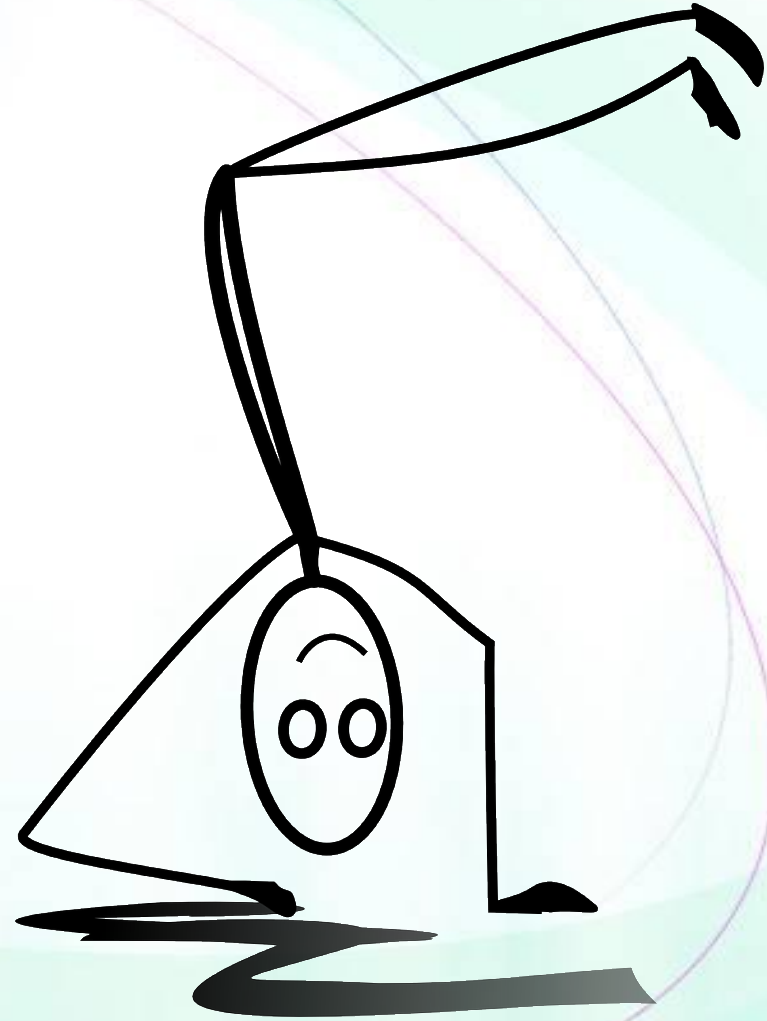
- opinion piece
- Debate paper
- Review – literature / systematic / concept analysis
- Practice development – innovation and evaluation
- Original research
- Research methodology

Where do you want to publish?

- Who do you want to read it?
- Is this for a UK and / or international audience?
- Does the impact factor of a journal matter?
- Open access journals?



How to turn a conference poster or presentation into an article



Turning a conference presentation into an article

- Use of notes function on powerpoint presentation to provide structure for start of article
- Can be written post conference, though many advocate writing 'rubbish first draft' at same time as producing poster / presentation
- Advantage of latter – possible chance to discuss with conference delegates / editorial staff at conference to obtain feedback and check target publication

A worked example....

Available at <http://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/staff/dr-sarah-burden/>

- Burden, S.E. (2014) Methods for investigating decision making: an evaluation of artefact-mediated interviews as a data collection method in decision making research. In: RCN International Nursing Research Conference, April 2-4, 2014, University of Glasgow.
- Burden, S.E., Topping, A. and O'Halloran, C. (2015) The value of artefacts in stimulating recall interviews: Exploring mentor decisions of student competence in practice. **Nurse Researcher**, 23 (1) September, pp. 26-33.

Activity: examining the steps in the process – and associated materials

- Select target publication(s) and review author guidance
- **Or** 'rubbish first draft' and then check against some selected journals – consider audience / impact / what they are publishing and what they have recently published (last 3-4 issues)
- Review with collaborators or critical friend (s)
- On-line submission

Documents:

- Nurse Researcher – author guidance
- Conference presentation
- Manuscript draft for submission

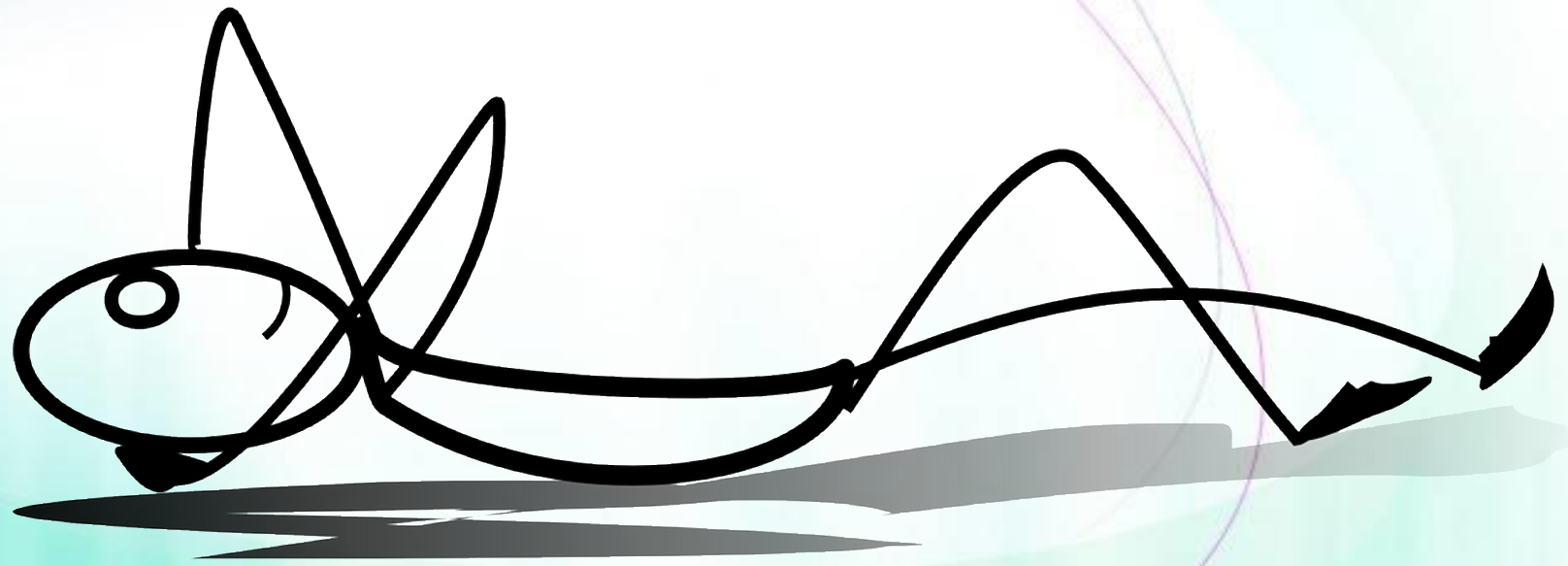
Activity: examining the steps in the process – and associated materials

- Feedback from editor and reviewers
- Rewrite.... (this does not guarantee acceptance) and tight turnaround
- Resubmission – to include manuscript and list changes in response to reviewer's comments
- Accepted.... Galley proofs to final proof (all time constrained)
- Published

Documents:

- Reviewer's comments and response
- Final proof

Overcoming barriers and blockages to writing



Getting down to writing...what helps?

- Can you only write in one place?
- Can you only write at a particular time of day?
- How much time do you need to write?
- How often should you write?
- Should you write alone or collaboratively?

Trigger questions to help you get startedwhen you haven't a clue where to start

(with acknowledgement to Professor Sally Brown)

- What am I doing?
- Why am I doing it?
- What has been done in the past?
- What were the effects?
- Why was this unsatisfactory?
- What have I tried that worked?
- What didn't work so well?
- What have I learned from my success and failures?
- What can I deduce from what I have done?
- What do I plan to do next?

Just write..... Nothing is ever perfect

- Rubbish first draft...
- Tell the story... perhaps oral recording to capture ideas and flow....
- Switch off your 'internal editor'
- Set and share targets...(with supportive colleagues)

A piece of writing is abandoned at the least damaging point....

And here's to success

